Traffic Engineering Conference

for Operations and Safety

Asheville, North Carolina September 8, 2004

DIVERSITY COUNCIL BRIEFING



Diversity?





Mission Statement:

To promote an understanding of diversity within the North Carolina Department of Transportation that creates, maintains and values a diverse workforce

Objective:

To develop a source document that identifies and recommends to management necessary changes to the NCDOT's Diversity Policies



Members

Ric Cruz - Engineering Safety Branch (Rail)

Peter Albrecht - Public Transportation

Emily McGraw - State Road Maintenance Unit

Jan Bryant - Office of Secretary

Ivan Holloway - Right-of-Way Branch

Rosa Gill - DMV Traffic Records

Kimmy Le - Information Technology Unit

Everett Ward - Office of Deputy Secretary (Roger Sheats)

Hearbert Locklear - Structure Design Unit

Mercidee Benton - Fiscal Unit (Budget)



Goals:

- 1. To identify past diversity trends and current initiatives and policies
- 2. To assess employee's knowledge, attitudes and understanding of diversity
- 3. To recommend changes to current diversity policies and establish new ones
- 4. To produce a final report



Work Plan: Phase I - Gather Data

- Collect and summarize the last ten (10) years of department's personnel data
- Identify current diversity initiatives and policies
- Conduct focus group sessions using both homogeneous and heterogeneous groupings as well as top level management and field managers
- Utilize a survey to get additional input from other employees as to their knowledge, attitudes and understanding of diversity



Work Plan (con't): Phase II - Analyze Data

- Collect ten years of personnel data, current policies and results from survey and focus group sessions
- Identify personnel trends, attitudes toward and understanding of diversity based on data and focus group feedback
- Determine the effectiveness of current policies based on the outcome of the analysis of data and employee feedback



Work Plan (con't): Phase III - End Product:

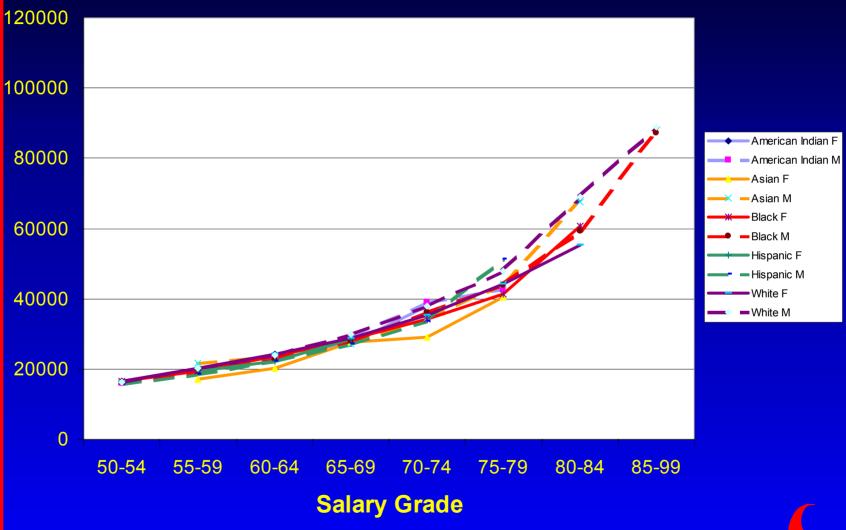
- Develop recommendations for changes in current policies and the need to establish new policies based on outcomes
- Present draft copy of recommendations to management
- Solicit input from management
- Prepare final report based on employee recommendations, statistical data and input from management



Diversity Council Data Management

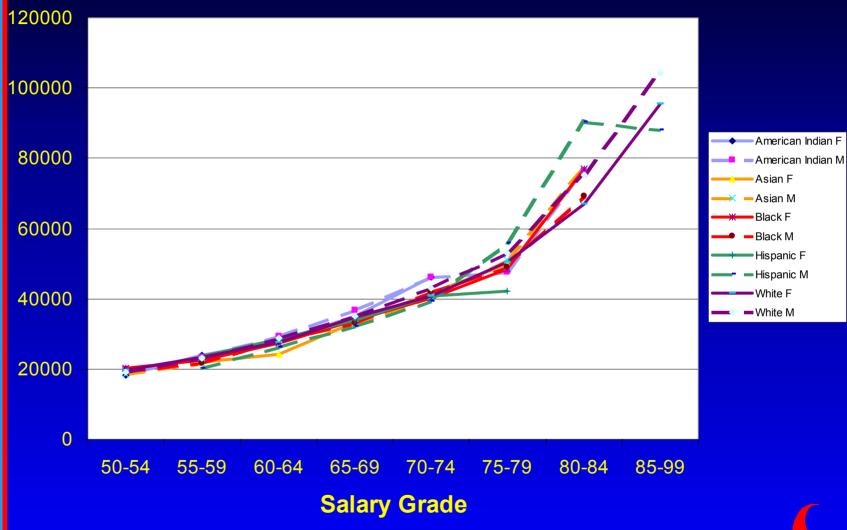


Average Salary 1994



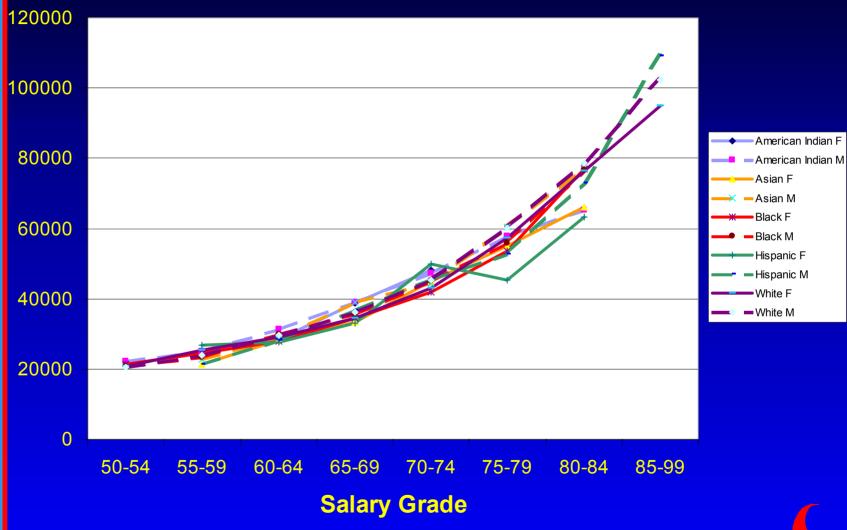


Average Salary 1999



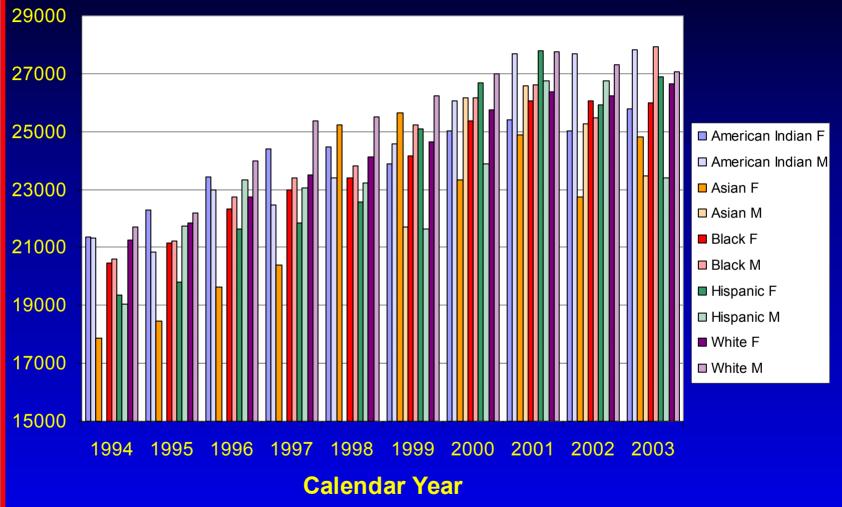


Average Salary 2003



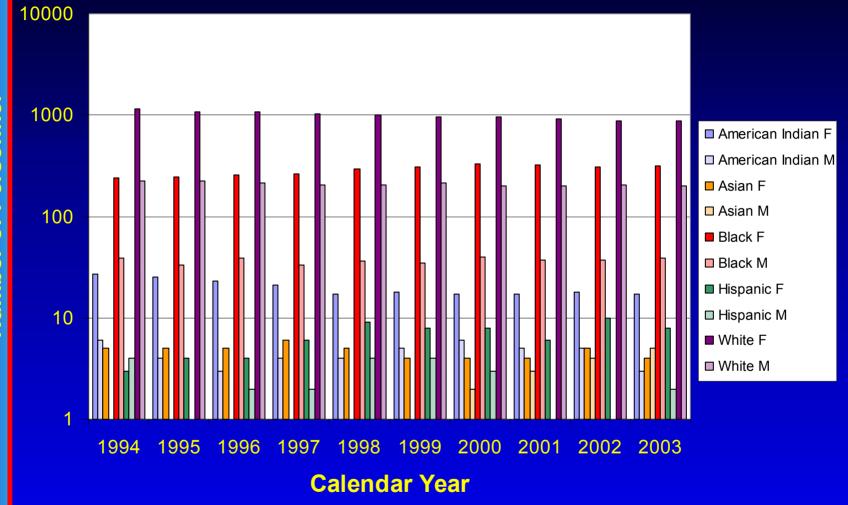


Average Salary: Office & Clerical



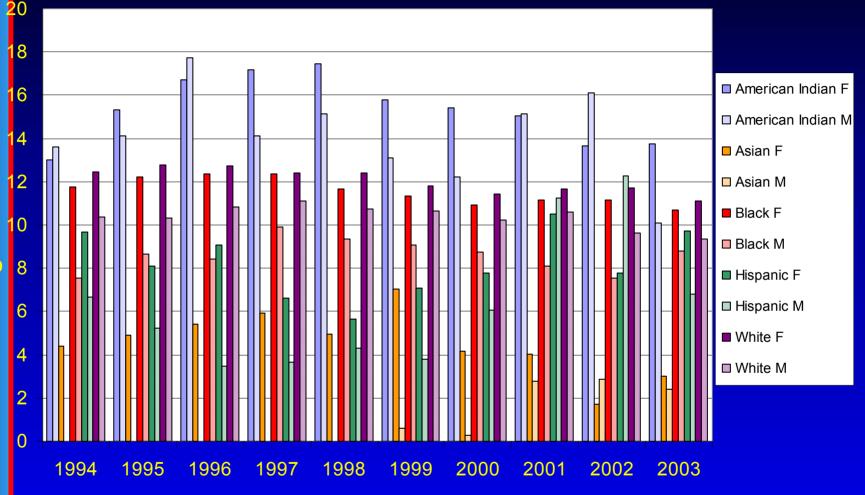


Number of Personnel: Office & Clerical





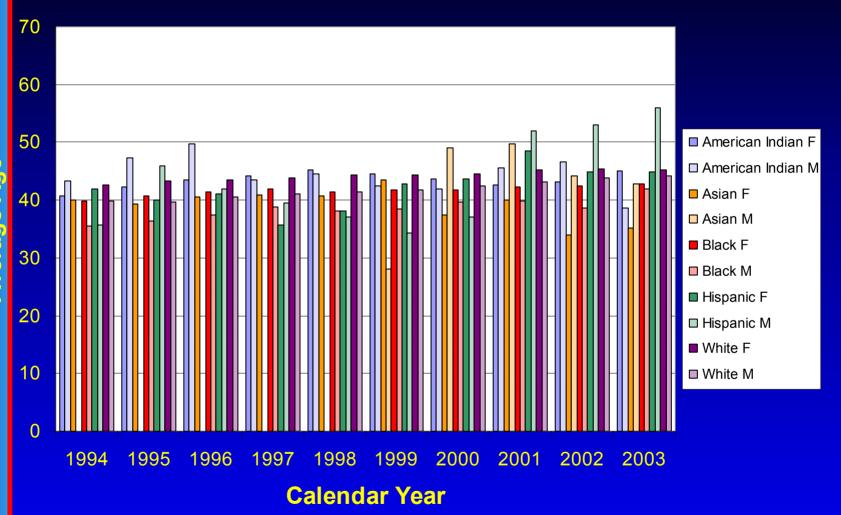
Years Service: Office & Clerical



Calendar Year

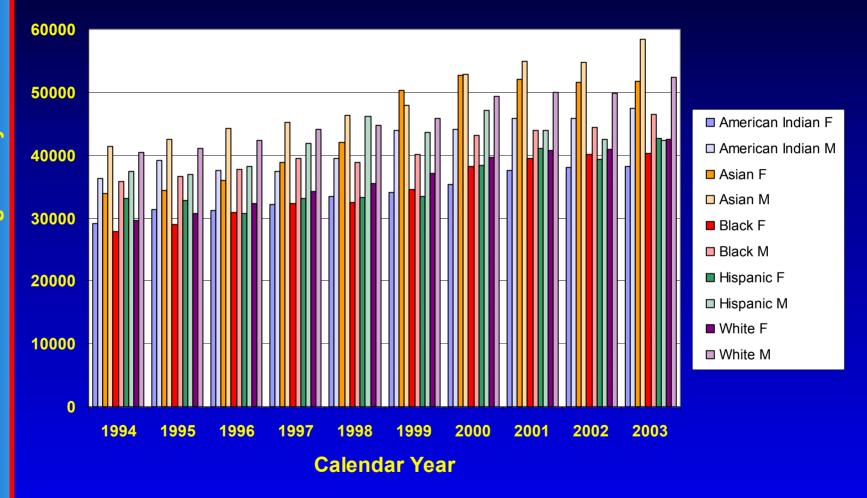


Average Age: Office and Clerical



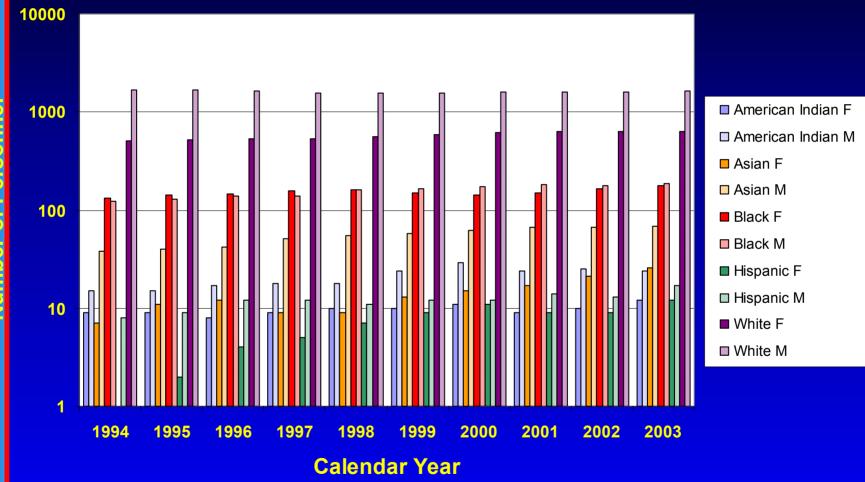


Average Salary: Professional



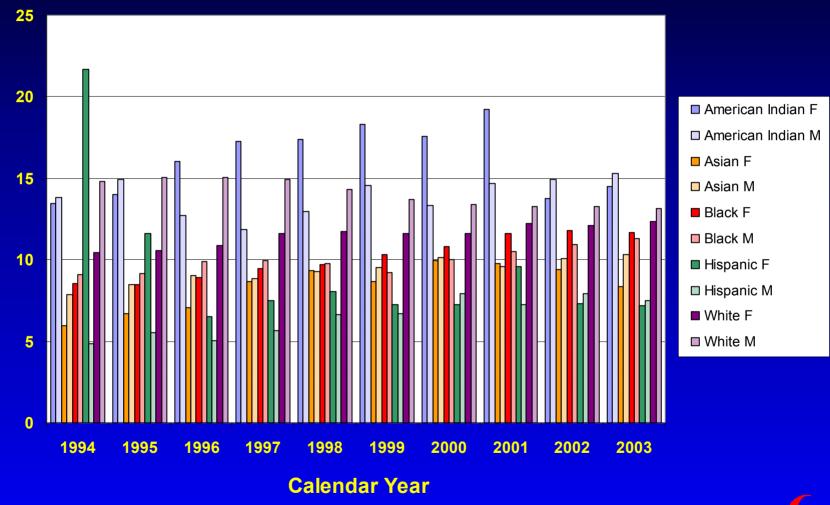


Number of Personnel: Professional



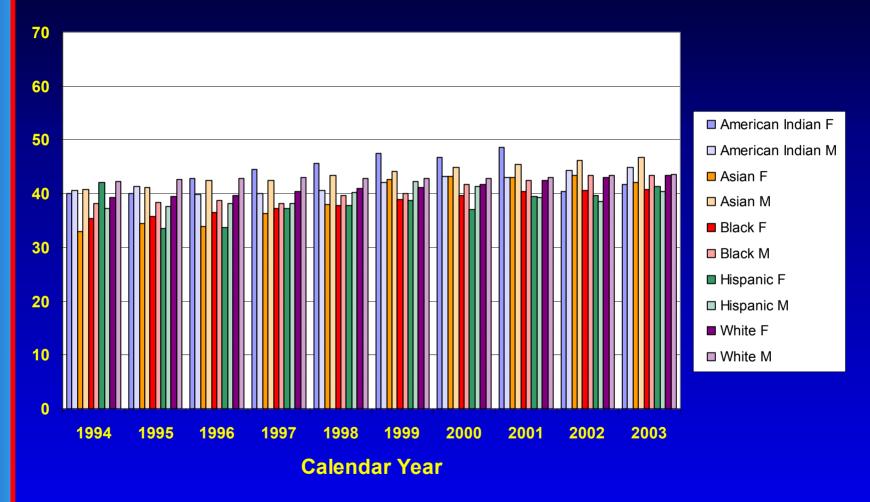


Average Years Service: Professional





Average Age: Professionals





Summary of Activities to Date

- Developed Goals, Objectives and Work Plan
- Created graphs using statistical data to identify trends in NCDOT workforce
- Contracted with UNC Kenan Flagler School of Business to Conduct Employee Focus Groups (Dr. James Johnson)



Challenges for Supervisors/Managers

- Demonstrate the ability to lead a diverse workforce and maximize every employee's contributions and opportunities
- Ensure that the Department's diversity initiatives are effectively implemented in their units/sections
- Promote and enforce respectful standards of day-to-day workplace conduct



Challenges for Employees:

- Seek and utilize the input of people with different backgrounds and perspectives as they go about their work
- Treat everyone with respect and expect respectful treatment in return



QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION

